

Dear CENL members,

I am delighted to announce that the **CENL AGM 2021 will take place on the 29-30 November 2021** with a cultural programme on Sunday 30th November.

As a community, we are strongest when we come together, and we do want to come together this year to discuss important business matters as well as talk about the many experiences we are all so eager to share.

At this stage, the Executive Committee feel that it is too early to decide on whether the AGM should take place in person or virtually. With the vaccination programmes rolling out in Europe, we are hoping that international travel will resume in the summer making it possible for us to meet in person. We are therefore currently planning on running the AGM in person at the Royal Library of Belgium in Brussels. However, we will continue to monitor the Covid-19 situation in Europe closely and will make a final decision in September on the format for this year's AGM ensuring that everyone has the same chance to attend the AGM.

We are working closely with the team of the KBR to secure some hotel rooms with flexible booking and the CENL Secretariat will send more information shortly, as well as the registration link. We understand that holding the decision until September will leave a short window for you to book your flights, which might be expensive by this point and will therefore be offering additional travel bursaries to members to ensure that you are all able to afford the travel costs to attend should we be able to meet in person.

I am also delighted to announce that **Dr Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress, will be our keynote speaker** at this year's AGM. Carla is an inspiring colleague and it will be incredibly enlightening to hear about her experiences and views about the challenges we are all facing in the post-pandemic world.

Please save the dates in your diaries and I look forward to seeing you in November, and sincerely hope that you all stay safe in the meantime.

If you have any additional questions about the AGM, do not hesitate to contact the CENL Secretariat at cenl@bl.uk.

With warmest regards,



Roly
CENL Chair on behalf of the CENL Executive Committee